

# ZAC EFRON TALKS VIAGRA AND OTHER 'AWKWARD MOMENTS'

PAGE 23

# metro

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BILLY BECERRA, METRO

**Super Bowl XLVIII.** The time for talking — we're looking at you, Richard Sherman — is over as the big game finally arrives this Sunday.  
**Take it to the cute zone.** At the Puppy Bowl, ruff-housing is allowed.  
**Drink up.** We talked to a beer expert to find out exactly which brew you should be pairing with each super snack.  
**Gridiron guessing game.** An algorithm predicts which team is expected to win. PAGES 16, 18-19, 28-31

# A NY given Sunday



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# Bill hopes to prevent future deaths in vacants

**Hazardous.** Two families who lost loved ones in a warehouse fire support a bill to create a vacant building inventory.

In a little more than two months, two families will endure the second anniversary of their loved ones' deaths.

On April 9, 2012, firefighters Lt. Robert Neary and Daniel Sweeney collapsed and died along with a dilapidated and vacant Kensington warehouse.

"We have been here two years," said City Councilman Dennis O'Brien, "and we still don't have a comprehensive plan."

"Every day that there's not a comprehensive strategy," he said, "the firefighters in the community at large are at risk."

O'Brien introduced a bill on Thursday that he hopes will take steps to reduce firefighter and first responder accidents while working inside large and vacant buildings.

The idea is to identify, inspect, mark and seal buildings that present hazards and dangers to firefighters, first responders and the general public.

He called for city officials to amend the fire code to establish a task force to take inventory



Diane Neary, left, wife of Lt. Robert Neary, and Marian Sweeney, mother of Daniel Sweeney, spoke about the proposed bill. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

## The plan

- **Vacant Property Task Force:** Oversees the inventory.
- **Vacant Property Inventory:** A block-by-block inventory of all the city's vacant properties.
- **Vacant Property Database:** A searchable collection of the properties.
- **Inspection Team:** Inspects the buildings and enforces violations.

of vacant or abandoned buildings within the city and compile them into a searchable database.

O'Brien said the city contains about 35,000 vacant buildings.

"In every industrial city," he said, "these present the most real and present danger."

O'Brien said in every other jurisdiction, whenever there is a fire, the fire department instantly has an investigation. A report follows, and then a grand jury investigation follows if necessary.

"That doesn't happen here and it should happen here," he said.

Joe Schulle, president of firefighters' union Local 22, said since Neary and Sweeney died, the fire department has not addressed training initiatives regarding collapsed buildings.

"The reality of the Phil-

## Quoted

"The homeless often find these structures that are not sealed and seek refuge from the elements. So when these buildings ignite, firefighters cannot simply walk away." Schulle

adelphia Fire Department is that this incident could happen again tomorrow," Schulle said.

Diane Neary, wife of Lt. Neary, said when she revisits the site of the deadly fire, she can't escape the image of the emptiness of the big, vacant city block.

"That vacant block represented to me the vacantness in my life, in my heart," she said.

She said she prays the city will approve the bill, "and will look at the va-

cant spot where my husband died, and Danny died, and know the vacantness that can happen in someone else's life," she added.

Toward the back, Marian Sweeney, Daniel's mother, stood quietly and watched alongside her husband, Dave, wiping glassy eyes.

"If it's about Danny," Marian said, "I'm there."

**TOMMY ROWAN**  
tommy.rowan@metro.us

## Meow. Convicted Kelly mansion cat hoarder will appeal

Marjory Bamont, 82, was convicted of abusing 14 cats and one dog while living inside the East Falls mansion formerly occupied by actress Grace Kelly. But her attorneys say Bamont was tried in absentia due to an internal error, and the verdict is invalid.

Bamont requested an

appeal Wednesday, and a hearing has been scheduled for March 27.

Bamont has resided in Kelly's former home in East Falls since 1973. The PSPCA raided her home in late October and found 14 cats and one dog reportedly living in inhumane conditions, and the remains of one cat. **SAM NEWHOUSE**

## NARAL

### State Rep. Brian Sims gets honor

State Rep. Brian Sims (D-Phila.) on Tuesday will be honored in Washington, D.C. by NARAL Pro-Choice American, an organization that engages in political action to oppose restrictions on abortion. Sims is a member of the Women's Health Caucus. **METRO**

## Ethics

### Council may ban cash gifts for city officials

If a bill passes City Council, city officials would no longer be allowed to receive cash gifts.

The bill, introduced Thursday by Council President Darrell L. Clarke, also caps the total value of gifts a city worker can receive per year at \$99.

If approved, the bill



**Council President Clarke**  
FILE PHOTO

would amend the city charter, which has vague gift rules. **METRO**

# 1

## NEWS

### Top 3

### What's trending at Metro.us

1 'VIDEO: Man spends more than \$100,000 to look like Justin Bieber'

2 'VIDEO: Son surprises mom with Super Bowl tickets'

3 'VIDEO: Mean cat terrorizes postal worker'

### Local tweet

"Summer clothes > Winter clothes"

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# La Salle junior to head talk at conference

## Getting graphic.

Katherine Boligitz is one of five students from Pennsylvania to present.

La Salle University student Katherine Boligitz, 20, will make a presentation this

weekend at the Nebraska Conference for Undergraduate Women in Mathematics at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Boligitz's presentation is titled "Distinguished-color rainbow connection in graphs."

Uh, what?

"It's about coloring a graph a certain way," she said. "It's about creating a

## Quoted

**"I've never been. I heard it's cold."**

Boligitz deadpanned about her first trip to the Cornhusker state.

distinct path from any two points [on the graph]."

Oh, OK, got it. Wait. Huh?

"If you think about,"

she said, "if you're going from one place to another, and you're going on streets, you want distinct streets and you can't go on the same street twice."

She said it's a lot easier to do it than explain it.

Boligitz will essentially discuss graph theory at the conference, which runs from Jan. 31 to Feb. 2. The junior, who's a graduate

of Archbishop Wood High School, is one of two students from the Philadelphia area, and one of five students from the state, to attend the conference.

This past summer Boligitz, of Roslyn, Pa., and university math professor Janet Fierston received a grant from an annual program sponsored by the Dean's Office of the Univer-

sity's School of Arts and Sciences to conduct research together. So, what does Boligitz find most interesting about the graphs?

"There's an infinite amount of graphs you can create," she said. "So the problem is never-ending."



**TOMMY ROWAN**  
tommy.rowan@metro.us

## Pickpockets

### Police name trio sought in Center City thefts

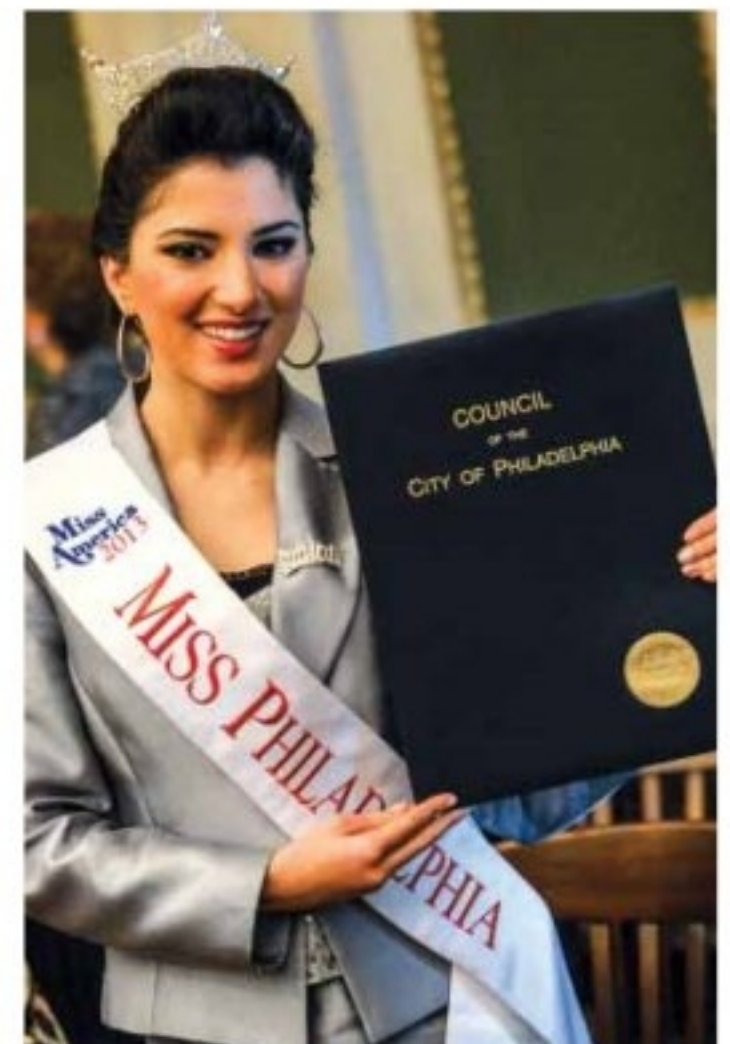
Police named Timothy Mosley, James Black and Renza Sheaff as the alleged thieves sought for five pick-pocket thefts over the last seven months. In each robbery, a woman's wallet was taken from a purse hanging over the back of a chair at a cafe or restaurant, and police say they racked up thousands of dollars in charges on victims' credit cards. **METRO**

## Beating

### Teens arrested after posting attack video on Facebook

Philadelphia police charged two teens in connection with a so-called "knockout game" attack Tuesday, with a third suspect still at large, reports say.

A Woodrow Wilson Middle School student was assaulted in Rhawnhurst by three teens, one of whom posted a video of the attack on Facebook. The victim required medical attention. **METRO**



## Honored for her service

Miss Philadelphia 2013 Francesca Ruscio was recognized by City Council on Thursday after a year of community service.

CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

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## Fraud. Feds claim estates attorney stole \$500K from clients

A former estates attorney faces up to three years in prison for allegedly bilking his clients of hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Gomer "Tom" Williams III, 54, a former attorney who was disbarred in 2012 for misconduct, was charged Thursday by federal prosecutors with wire fraud for allegedly stealing \$503,361 from his clients.

Williams, formerly an attorney with Spector Gadon & Rosen, allegedly defrauded four of his trust and estate clients by diverting funds from their accounts to his personal accounts and overbilling the clients for work that did not occur.

Williams, as attorney, was the trustee of his clients' trusts, and the administrator or executor of his clients' estates.

As such, he controlled the clients' funds and

### Investigation

Trusts and estates attorneys are tasked with safeguarding clients' assets.

- Williams allegedly steered funds out of clients' accounts to pay his own bills.
- At one point, Williams used a client's money to pay his mortgage.

checking accounts and was able to transfer funds from their accounts to his own or to pay his personal expenses, prosecutors said.

The alleged illegal activities occurred between 2007 to 2012.

The misconduct for which Williams was disbarred was not listed in public court documents.

SAM NEWHOUSE



## Prepping for the Chinese New Year

Harry Leong, president of the Philadelphia Suns, a Chinatown-based community group, prepares the costumes for Thursday night's Lion Dance celebrating Chinese New Year. Events in Chinatown for the holiday run through Feb. 5. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

### Gunfire

## Police shoot suspect, 23, during drug bust, struggle in Parkside

A Philadelphia police officer shot a suspect who allegedly went for the cop's gun during a drug bust in Parkside early Thursday.

Police chased after the 23-year-old suspect around 12:30 a.m. after he took part in a suspected drug deal.

One police officer tracked the suspect to a backyard, where police say a violent struggle ensued, during which the suspect tried to grab the cop's gun. The officer fired one shot into the suspect's torso.

The suspect was last listed as in critical condition. Police reportedly confiscated eight bags of suspected crack cocaine.

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## State of the Union stops. Obama highlights job training program

President Barack Obama highlighted innovative job and skills training in the U.S. heartland on Thursday on the second leg of a tour to draw attention to his proposals for improving the fortunes of low and middle-income Americans.

Following his State of the Union speech, in which he called for greater economic fairness in a nation still recovering from the deep 2007-2009 recession, Obama visited a job train-

ing center in Wisconsin and an innovative high school in Tennessee.

He stumped for a higher minimum wage and improved savings opportunities for workers in stops in Maryland and Pennsylvania Wednesday.

The president pledged in his address to Congress to review and retool federal job training programs, saying such courses needed to do better at landing their graduates in well-paying jobs.

Obama dropped by a General Electric facility in Waukesha, Wisc., where a program run with input from employers, unions, community groups and colleges trains students in manufacturing and construction skills. **REUTERS**

### Training funds

# \$500M

Obama kicked off an effort to identify effective types of job training and a competition for \$500 million in funds for training initiatives.

### Inmates

## US to launch clemency effort for low-level drug offenders

The Justice Department plans to launch an effort to identify non-violent prison inmates convicted of low-level drug charges who would be good candidates for clemency from President Barack Obama.

The department's No. 2 official, Deputy Attorney General James Cole, plans to lay out details at a legal conference in New York, according to excerpts of his speech released prior to delivery.

Obama in December commuted the sentences of eight people after deciding their crack cocaine offenses did not justify their long prison terms. **REUTERS**

# US to seek death penalty for accused marathon bomber



Tsarnaev pleaded not guilty in July to 30 counts, including allegations he killed a university police officer. / JANE FLAVELL COLLINS

**Trial.** Holder faced a Friday deadline for deciding whether to seek the death penalty.

Accused Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev should be put to death if he is found guilty of planting bombs that killed three people and wounded 264 at the Boston Marathon last year, the U.S. government's chief prosecutor said Thursday.

U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder said in a statement that he was authorizing trial prosecutors to seek the death penalty against Tsarnaev, who is charged with committing one of the largest attacks on U.S. soil since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

Prosecutors say that Tsarnaev, 20, and his 26-year-old brother Tamerlan planted a pair of home-made pressure-cooker bombs at the race's crowded finish line on April 15, 2013, killing three people and wounding 264.

Three nights later, the pair killed a university police officer and later engaged in a shootout with police that left Tamerlan dead, prosecutors say.

The younger Tsarnaev pleaded not guilty to criminal charges in the worst mass-casualty attack on U.S. soil since 9/11. Justice Department officials said the nearly seven months since was necessary to evaluate fully the circumstances of the case and to gather recommendations from prosecutors advising Holder.

Holder has said he is not a proponent of the death penalty because he believes its value as a deterrent is questionable, but since becoming attorney general in 2009, he has authorized prosecutors to seek the death penalty in 36 cases, according to the Justice Department. **REUTERS**

### Quoted

"The nature of the conduct at issue and the resultant harm compel this decision." Holder

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## Opinion

## TOM FOREMAN

FOREMAN IS A POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT FOR CNN.



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## TIME TO MOVE

Every time the president even suggested something could be done in a bipartisan way, you could hear the giggles from the half-snoozing lawmakers. If John Boehner had rolled his eyes any further someone would have called an exorcist.

Talk of bipartisan agreements is beginning to sound as ridiculous as the ramblings of a toothless codger who says he saw Big Foot.

So what can you do about it?

The answer is simple: Move.

One key reason so many elected Democrats and Republicans, especially in the House, are so averse to compromise is that they come from "safe" districts. Their neighborhoods are so packed with people who lean in one direction, the steady message to these lawmakers is "if you want to get re-elected, do what



President Obama / GETTY IMAGES

## Quoted

**This has happened because we have segregated ourselves. Democrats have sought out communities full of like-minded souls driving Prius cars.**

we say ... and to hell with the other side."

This has happened because we have segregated ourselves. Democrats have sought out communities full of like-minded souls driving Prius cars. Republicans have done the same — rushed to places full of "Nobama" yard signs. And in the process, we have all done our part to deepen the political divide.

Sure, these are stereotypes and they're not always true — but in a significant number of places they are being embraced.

So like I said, if you want to make a difference, move to some place you don't want to go to be among people with whom you disagree. Because if enough people do that, and more districts become balanced between left and right, then instead of just jerking their knee, the folks in D.C. will have to start thinking again.

## Florence

## Italy court says Knox guilty of murdering Meredith Kercher

A Florence court handed down guilty verdicts for U.S. student Amanda Knox and her former Italian boyfriend Raffaele Sollecito on Thursday in a retrial for the 2007 murder of Briton Meredith Kercher, reversing an acquittal by a previous appeal ruling.

The verdict confirms an original 2009 conviction, and sentences Knox to serve 28 years and six months in jail. Sollecito was sentenced to 25 years.

Knox is in the United States and any detention would depend on the outcome of yet another appeal and she would have to be extradited to serve the sentence. Sollecito is free pending a definitive confirmation of the verdict by Italy's highest court but cannot travel out of the country. **REUTERS**



Meredith Kercher's family lawyer Francesco Maresca arrives at the Nuovo Palazzo di Giustizia courthouse for the final verdict of the Amanda Knox and Raffaele Sollecito retrial. / GETTY IMAGES

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## Security pact

United States:  
Afghanistan  
can't 'keep  
deferring'  
decision

The United States and its allies cannot continue to put off decisions about a post-2014 mission in Afghanistan, U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel said, urging Afghan President Hamid Karzai to sign a pact allowing U.S. troops to stay beyond this year.

"You can't just keep deferring and defer-

ring, because at some point the realities of planning and budgeting and all that is required collides," Hagel told reporters late on Wednesday, aboard a military aircraft en route to Poland.

The Obama administration has been pressing Karzai to sign the agreement, which was concluded last year, for months, warning that U.S. and NATO nations could be forced to pull all soldiers out by the end of the year, leaving Afghanistan vulnerable to Taliban resurgence or even civil war. **REUTERS**



A soldier stands guard in a street in Afghanistan. / GETTY IMAGES

## Spread thin

Many  
chronically ill  
Americans  
unable to afford  
food, medicine

One in three Americans with a chronic disease such as diabetes, arthritis or high blood pressure has difficulty paying for food, medications or both, according to a new study.

People who had trouble affording food were four times more likely to skip some of their medications due to cost than those who got plenty to eat, researchers found.

"This leads to an obvious tension between 'milk' or 'med,'" said Dr. Nitesh Choudhry, who worked on the study at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. "If you have a fixed income, should you treat or should you eat?"

The findings are based on data collected by the 2011 National Health



Prescription medications can come at a high cost. / GETTY IMAGES

## By the numbers

# 23%

Among those participants, 23 percent took their medication less often than prescribed because of the cost.

# 19%

Reported difficulty affording food.

# 11%

Said they were having trouble paying for both food and medications.

Interview Survey, a questionnaire that offers a snapshot of the U.S. population as a whole. Nearly 10,000 people age 20 and up filled out the survey and reported having one or more chronic illnesses like cancer, asthma, emphysema or a psychiatric illness.

About one in three had trouble affording food, medication or both.

These rates are high but are similar to figures found in previous studies, said lead author Dr. Seth Berkowitz, from Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. **REUTERS**

## Cheating scandal

Air Force says  
92 missile  
officers  
implicated

The U.S. Air Force said on Thursday a total of 92 missile launch officers have been implicated in a widening scandal over exam cheating, well beyond the initial 34 officers placed under investigation. The officers have been taken off their missile wing duties as a result of their ties to the cheating, which took place in a key proficiency exam, Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James told a Pentagon news briefing. The Air Force have assured the nuclear mission and the weapons themselves remain safe. **REUTERS**

## By the numbers

# 34

Officers originally investigated

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## French kissed off

## France's ex-first lady 'fell off skyscraper' on hearing of affair

The former first lady of France, Valerie Trierweiler, said she felt as if she had plunged from a skyscraper when President Francois Hollande told her of his affair with an actress.

Trierweiler, from whom Hollande announced his separation on Saturday, told the glossy magazine Paris Match that she had been aware of rumors about an affair, but that having them confirmed by her partner of seven years was a shock.

"I had heard rumors, obviously, but you hear them about everyone," said Trierweiler, saying she paid them little heed.

"When I found out, it's like I fell off a skyscraper."

Trierweiler gave the interview to Paris Match, for which she

works as a columnist, during a humanitarian visit this week to Mumbai with the charity Action Against Hunger.

The India trip was her first public appearance after spending eight days in a hospital and a week in seclusion following publication by the tabloid Closer of photos that it said showed Hollande, 59, making nocturnal visits to the apartment of 41-year-old French actress Julie Gayet. **REUTERS**



# Pope replaces the head of Vatican financial authority

**Out with the old.**  
Vatican reforms are expected to intensify in coming months.

Pope Francis on Thursday replaced a cardinal who played a senior role in Vatican finances for more than a decade, in his latest move to clear out the old financial guard associated with his predecessor.

The pope had accepted the resignation of Cardinal Attilio Nicora as president of the Vatican's Financial Information Authority, its internal regulatory watchdog.

Nicora, 76, held high-level roles in Vatican finances since 2002. He was replaced by Bishop Giorgio Corbellini, 66, who has a track record of reform with-



The Pope's break with past financial establishment is almost complete. / GETTY IMAGES

## Old guard

- Nicora left the bank supervisory role last year but kept his role at AIF until Thursday.
- AIF will have a pivotal role in cleaning up Vatican finances in the coming months. It will be carrying out an investigation of the bank soon at the request of Moneyval, a monitoring committee of the Council of Europe.
- A Vatican source said it would have been awkward for Nicora to have any role in investigating departments in which he once held senior positions.

in the Vatican bureaucracy.

The move, which follows the replacement of four cardinals connected to the Vatican bank on Jan. 15, came as Francis is approaching the first anniversary of a pontificate marked by austerity and sobriety.

With Thursday's move, he has made a nearly total break with the clerical financial establishment he inherited from his predecessor, Benedict XVI.

From 2002 to 2011, Nicora served as head of the Administration of the Patrimony of the Apostolic See, which manages the city-state's real estate holdings and financial and stock portfolios and also acts as a purchasing and human resources department. **REUTERS**

## Ukraine uprising

## Yanukovich takes sick leave in midst of crisis

Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich went on sick leave on Thursday after a bruising session of parliament, leaving a political vacuum in a country threatened with bankruptcy and destabilized by anti-government protests.

The 63-year-old president appears increasingly isolated in a crisis born of a tug-of-war between the West and Ukraine's former Soviet overlord Russia. A former president said this week the violence between demonstrators and police had brought the country to the brink of civil war.

Shortly after his office announced he had developed a high temperature and acute respiratory ailment, Yanukovich defended his record in handling the crisis and accused the opposition, which is demanding his resignation, of provoking the unrest. **REUTERS**



Protesters reject an amnesty offer. / GETTY IMAGES

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## CULTURE

More furry fun

### Meows in the mix

This year, the Hallmark Channel will debut the Kitten Bowl (premieres Sunday, Feb. 2, noon). And while it's essentially the same premise as the Puppy Bowl, Schachner welcomes the company. "Next year, let's do a Fish Bowl — we can do the entire animal kingdom," he says.

**Fetch.** Puppy Bowl referee Dan Schachner on adorable fouls, kitten competition and the best gig on television.

Dan Schachner is going to have a far better Super Bowl Sunday than you. But don't feel too bad — he's also going to have a far better Super Bowl Sunday than John Elway or Peyton Manning ever could.

Schachner is refereeing the one and only Puppy Bowl.

"It's really my job to decide what's the most egregious foul — you have to pick your battles," says Schachner, now in his third year of officiating Animal Planet's much-anticipated fluff ball throw down. "We will not tolerate napping on the sidelines. We will not tolerate peeing on the field. Intentional growling, that's a big one."

For the uninitiated, the Puppy Bowl is exactly what it sounds like, and yet not at all what anything sounds like. More of a romp than a competition, the annual telecast features adoptable pups tumbling across a mini football field, occasionally stopping to chew on each other's ears or sneak snuggles. "It's every pup for himself," admits Schachner. "You can't organize puppies into teams — at least I haven't figured it out."

Almost as important is

# THE MOST SUPER OF BOWLS

In the Puppy Bowl, the action is ruff. / PHOTOS COURTESY OF ANIMAL PLANET, DAMIAN STROHMAYER

the supporting cast, and this year Animal Planet brought in some serious talent to celebrate the bowl's 10th year. In addition to penguin cheerleaders and a hamster-piloted blimp, Internet celeb Keyboard Cat will provide half-time entertainment, while Lil Bub has been tapped for commentary.

That's not to say the Puppy Bowl is strictly fun and games. There is, after all, a title at stake. "The Most Valuable Puppy, maybe he didn't even score," says Schachner of the afternoon's official winner. "But he's the puppy who showed the most spunk — who was the best puppy he could be."

### Dog's life

#### Dream job

A professional actor and TV host, Schachner went on quite the campaign to land the Animal Planet gig. Casting both his children and neighborhood pups in makeshift scrimmages, he submitted audition videos showing off his officiating skills. "It's one of those jobs that you dream about," he admits.

MONICA WEYMOUTH  
[letters@metro.us](mailto:letters@metro.us)



### Tune in

Puppy Bowl X premieres Sunday, Feb. 2, 3-5 p.m. on Animal Planet. If you miss it, there will be six repeat airings, each with new fluffy content.

Schachner makes a call during Puppy Bowl X.

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## Super Bowl Sunday

## What would Martha Stewart serve?

STEWART  
GETTY IMAGES

There will be no cold platter of wings, greasy chips or belly-inflating beer served at Martha Stewart's Super Bowl soiree. In fact, there is no soiree — Stewart is going to Sunday's big game. But if she were cooking up something, it would be quesadillas, says the entertaining maven, plus "margaritas with fresh lime juice, good tequila and sugar-rimmed glasses," naturally. The domestic powerhouse is a fan of the Mexican staple: "I just love quesadillas. I make them with sardines, queso blanco; I make them with jalapeno peppers and guacamole — so delicious." **METRO**

Quesadillas, anyone?  
CREATAS

**Draft.** A Whole Foods' beer expert tells us what to pair with nachos, poppers and other gameday goodies.

The beer experts at Whole Foods take their fermented drinks very seriously, and they don't want you serving just any brewski with that seven-layer dip. Your effervescent beverage must have just the right hop content to pair with the creamy dish. To ensure you don't make any pairing faux pas, here's a list of popular Super Bowl grub and the beers you should serve with them from Cynthia Tom, Whole Foods Market's Northeast regional beer, wine, spirits and tap room leader.

#### Seven-layer dip with tortilla chips and Cigar City Jai Alai IPA

"This unique IPA, named after an extreme sport from the Basque region of Spain, is a big and malty aromatic beer with hints of burnt toffee and tropical hops. It pairs nicely with creamy and full-flavored dishes."

#### Nachos and Maine Beer Peeper Ale

"This American style ale from Maine Beer Company has floral and citrusy flavor balanced with crisp and clean notes."

#### Pigs in a blanket and Brooklyn Brewery Blast

"Brooklyn Brewery's double IPA has extreme malty and bready charac-

# The right brew for your Super Bowl bash



Pick the perfect beer to go with your Super Bowl spread. / ISTOCKPHOTO

## Local brew

## Chips and Victory Prima Pils

"This German-style Pilsner from Pennsylvania is an easy-drinking Pilsner with herbaceous and malty notes. It pairs well with salty or cheesy dishes."

teristics. It's full-bodied and great with fatty and doughy foods."

**Jalapeno poppers and Ballast Point Sculpin IPA**  
"A San Diego original,

Ballast Point is dedicated to craft in creating this hoppy IPA with notes of stone fruits and a crisp, refreshing finish. It pairs well with rich and mildly spiced dishes."

#### Potato skins and Stillwater Cellar Door with white sage

"Balanced and complex, this farmhouse ale is herbaceous with orange peel and lemon notes. Pair it with roasted, starchy dishes."

#### Soft pretzels with mustard and Local Option Dampf Loc

"This traditional steam ale with nice malt notes and a lively carbonation accompanies any breaded

appetizer."

#### Spicy Buffalo wings and Sixpoint Resin

"This double IPA contains rich malt and hop aromas. It's long and heavy finish needs fatty and spicy foods to balance the flavors."

#### Deviled eggs and Ommegang Witte

"An Ommegang classic that is light enough to complement a morning meal. It has notes of orange peel and lemon."

#### Cheddar bratwurst and Pretty Things Meadowlark IPA

"This is a classic, bright and flowery IPA from Massachusetts with a distinct

aromatic nose. It's best with full-flavored meat dishes."

#### Chili and Left Hand Brewery Milk Stout Nitro

"A Colorado special, Milk Stout Nitro is creamy and smooth with notes of burnt sugar and malt. Perfect to pair with some acidity to cut the richness."

#### Popcorn and 21st Amendment Sneak Attack Saison

"This is a Belgian-style farmhouse ale that is light, wheaty and thirst-quenching. It has a subtle finish of cardamom spices that would work well with a light, buttered popcorn." **METRO**



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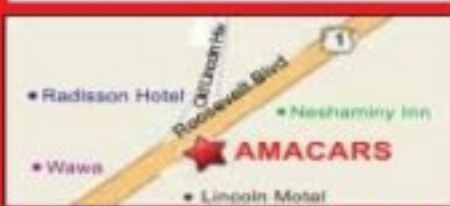
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## Recipe. Chicken and almond pesto sliders

### Ingredients

#### Chicken sliders

- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 large egg
- 1 pound ground chicken
- ½ jalapeno pepper, halved, seeded, de-veined and finely chopped
- 2 scallions, white and light green parts only, finely chopped
- 1 tablespoon finely chopped fresh cilantro
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 3 tablespoons dried, unseasoned bread crumbs
- 6 ounces mozzarella, sliced into 4 rounds
- 4 small brioche buns
- 1 tomato, sliced

#### Almond pesto

- ¾ cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1 generous cup sliced almonds, roughly chopped
- 1 cup grated Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh basil
- 2 garlic cloves, very finely minced



**TINA CHADHA**  
tina.chadha@metro.us



You could always serve wings, but these sliders are a delicious, crowd-pleasing alternative. / PROVIDED

Chef Lorena Garcia wants you to step up your Super Bowl spread from run-of-the-mill nachos to something a bit more exciting. The Venezuelan-born chef and restaurateur — you may know her from Bravo's "Top Chef Masters," Taco Bell commercials or her new cookware line, the Lorena Bella Kitchen Collection with HSN — created these delicious chicken and almond pesto sliders that'll blow your guests away, perhaps more than the commercials.

#### Directions

**1** To make the almond pesto, whisk together the olive oil, almonds, Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese, basil and garlic in a medium bowl and set aside.

**2** To make the sliders, pour the vegetable oil into a large

bowl and whisk in the egg. Add the ground chicken, the jalapeno, scallions, cilantro and salt and stir to combine. Stir in the bread crumbs and divide the mixture into four balls. Slightly flatten each ball into a 1 ½-inch thick patty and set aside.

**3** Prepare a hot charcoal or gas grill.

**4** Grill the burgers until they are golden brown on one side, about five minutes. Flip over the burgers and place a mozzarella round on top. Cook until the underside is golden brown and the cheese is melted, about five minutes longer. While the burgers cook, toast the buns.

**5** Place a burger, tomato slice and almond pesto on each bun and serve.

Serves 4

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**Once upon a time.**  
This Brothers Grimm tale has definitely not been "Disneyfied."

If "The Juniper Tree" is not one of the Grimm brothers' better-known stories, it's likely because the nastier parts — unlike, say, the snipped-off toes of Cinderella's stepsister or the queen's red-hot iron shoes in "Snow White" — are central to the story, thus not so easily excised for a children's cartoon. And that's exactly what attracted James Stover.

"It was a story that I didn't know and had never heard of," says the playwright, "and it's never been Disneyfied. A lot of the Grimms' stories are gory and aggressive. This one in particular is very much that."

Many of the story's elements are familiar from other, better-known Grimms' tales: a family living in a cottage in the woods, a wicked stepmother, a magical tree. But this particular story turns



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"Fairy tales come up a lot when you're a kid, the idea being that you're supposed to learn lessons or morals from them. But looking at the original texts and seeing how different the Grimms' stories are from the stories that we know, I wanted to take fairy tales and find my own way of telling them." Stover

less than whimsical with a decapitation, a daughter framed by her mother, a boy turned into stew and a vengeful bird with a beautiful singing voice.

Stover adapted the story for the Renegade Company, mixing actors with shadow puppets, and a hand puppet for the scavenging bird. In addition to the central story, Stover folds in a number of other fairy tale characters, including modern versions of Hansel and Gretel, Rumpelstiltskin, Tom Thumb and Cinderella.

Stover says that despite the fantastical elements of these stories, fairy tales continue to resonate with modern audiences because of their universal themes.

"I think the best stories are the kinds of stories that anyone can watch and put themselves into," he says. "With fairy tales, you see the struggle to be good or make positive choices when so many bad things are thrown in front of you. And that's something that I think anyone can relate to."



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FILMS 22

# Pretty, but pretty vacant

**Toons.** The Oscar-nominated animation shorts have dull stories but wild visuals.

As with their live action counterparts, the animated shorts the Oscars fete tend to be distressingly alike. Three of the five are slight tales of unlikely friendships, as though that was the only tale that melts hearts. But within that relatively narrow structure lies endless variation. Even when the content is similar, the style is diverse.

The cutest relationship is the one in the French "Mr. Hublot," in which a part-robot humanoid living in a clanky, rusty mechanical metropolis rescues a homeless robot puppy that grows big. Meanwhile, "Room on the Broom" is a star-studded English romp about a witch who keeps befriending animals. Simon Pegg narrates in rhymes, and all of the actors charm their way through a story you'll never remember.

There's no cuteness in "Feral," a roughly textured, monochromatic Russian number about a boy who was raised in the woods captured and domesticated by tamed

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"Get a Horse!" meshes vintage Mickey and Minnie with new technology. / DISNEY

man. By contrast, colors are splashed throughout "Possessions," from Japan, which depicts a man who winds up in a haunted shack.

Most of the world has already seen Disney's "Get a Horse!," which was tacked onto "Frozen." But it's worth seeing again, as it's a dizzying mesh of two distant eras of animation, with an old B&W Mickey cartoon popping out, "Purple Rose of Cairo"-style, through a modern movie screen. Even before it invades our world, it's a delight, with sight gags that never should have gone out of style.



MATT PRIGGE  
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## Real people

### The nominees for live-action short

Of this year's quintet of Oscar-nominated live action shorts, there's one that's more than forgettable pap. The French "Just Before Losing Everything" calmly details the attempts of a wife (Lea Drucker) making her escape, with two kids, from an abusive husband (Denis Menochet). First-time writer/director Xavier Legrand is a whiz at ratcheting up tension without breaking a sweat.

The British "The Voor-

man Problem" pits psychiatrist Martin Freeman against asylum inmate Tom Hollander, who claims, with some proof, that he's God. Alas, it could stand a touch more ambition. The same goes for "Do I Have to Take Care of Everything?," which is little more than a sitcom set piece. "That Wasn't Me" is an intense look at child soldiers, but it's more director's demo reel than exposé. And then there's the Danish "Helium," a gorily saccharine look at a dying kid that has the nerve to start off deadpan.



Tom Hollander and Martin Freeman play inmate and psychiatrist in "The Voorman Problem." / ACADEMY AWARDS

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**Film.** Efron talks love, nudity and his own "Awkward Moment."

We've all seen romantic comedies from the female perspective. Zac Efron is excited to turn the tables.

"This is, I think, the first look really at what it's like to be a guy dating at our age," he told reporters at last week's press conference for his new film, "That Awkward Moment."

The movie is about dating, sure, but at its crux the real relationship in the spotlight is the one between Efron's character, Jason, and his two best friends, played by Michael B. Jordan and Miles Teller. "Sometimes it takes your best friends to get through it," he says.

And it's good to have friends on your side during love's many twists and turns. Efron says one of his favorite moments of the film — which he also produced — is when his character realizes he's got someone special in Ellie, a writer he meets out one night.

"For the first time, he's flustered," he says. "He's never had this feeling before. He doesn't quite know what it is, and he's caught off guard." It's one of the film's many awkward moments: "that moment of authenticity, of a guy who's so smooth [meeting] somebody that he has no tricks for."

On a totally different level (literally and figuratively), one other stand-out awkward moment in



Dating drama

## Deal or no deal

Efron told the crowd that he doesn't really have any dealbreakers — but that doesn't make things much easier for him.

"I think it's tough to do what we do, be actors, and constantly

move around. We're on an adventure here, and it has a lot of different twists and turns that we don't expect. I don't want to commit to being in a relationship that I can't be 100 percent there for that person all the time. It's difficult."

"WHAT I LIKE THE MOST ABOUT JASON IS THAT HE TRIES TO BE HONEST," EFRON SAYS.

GETTY IMAGES

'So happy'

## A healthier Zac

After spending time in rehab last spring for a reported drug problem, Efron says he "couldn't be happier" these days.

"I'm so happy. I feel like I'm in a great place and I'm glad that I'm really here to share this moment with everybody and be present for all of it," Efron says about his "interesting year."

"The best part of it was being able to reflect upon that experience and realize how much I have learned about myself and the kind of man I want to be."

the film finds Efron and his buddies forced to approach relieving themselves in a new and unusual way, thanks to the Viagra they'd taken earlier.

"In real life I wouldn't use that technique," Efron says. "I think there's other ways around it. Actually, it was a weird day of filming. ... [I had] an elevated toilet in the middle of the room, built for this reason. So it was a room full of people. That was really awkward — everybody watching."

In case you were wondering, that means there's some Efron skin in the film, which the actor says he is perfectly OK with.

"If it's authentic and helps the story and it's necessary, then there's nothing I wouldn't try."



MEREDITH ENGEL

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## What about him?

"My most awkward moment was probably this year when I slipped and hit my face on the fountain in my house. The cool part of that [story] is there is a fountain in my house."

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# Josh Brolin is a smooth criminal

**Drama.** A dangerous convict makes pie and sweet, sweet love to Kate Winslet in "Labor Day."

For the son of the guy who made "Kindergarten Cop" and "Father's Day" (and, for the record, "Stripes" and "Ghostbusters"), Jason Reitman has tried hard to show range. His style mostly reveals itself in whatever work he's adapting, be it the broad libertarian yucks of Christopher Buckley's "Thank You for Smoking," the smirking whimsy of Diablo Cody's "Juno" or the perky melancholia of Walter Kirm's "Up in the Air." He gets brownie points for trying full-on serious with Joyce Maynard's novel "Labor Day," which also requires him to ratchet up an air of sweltering, end-of-summer tension, made worse by a hostage scenario.

Then again, there aren't many worse hostage scenarios, artistically speaking. Kate Winslet plays Adele,



Escaped convicted murderer Josh Brolin teaches Gattlin Griffith and Kate Winslet how to make peach pie in "Labor Day." / PARAMOUNT PICTURES

a jittery, vaguely unwell single mom who's on son duty with teenaged Henry (Gattlin Griffith) when they're held up by swarthy but hunky con Frank (Josh Brolin). Frank has escaped from prison and needs to lay low during the titular holiday weekend.

If this sounds hairy, then you can relax. This taciturn, mumbling menace quickly reveals himself to be a teddy bear. He tends to neglected housework. He tends to neglected mom. And he makes pies — sweet, delicious, beautifully hand-crafted peach pies that fill the dormant air with passion only

slightly less palatable than the sweet, sweet lovin' he gives Adele. He's also a convicted murderer, but there's probably a perfectly understandable explanation for that too, so we have no reason to worry — or, ultimately, care.

Since Reitman's work is only as good as the material he chooses, he goes down with the "Labor Day" ship. He's not the only one. Winslet tries her damndest, ratcheting up just enough ticks to make Adele overly anxious, but not so many that she becomes an unsightly grotesque. It's not a great role, this stereotype of willowy, weak feminin-

ity, but she tries to give her, if not dignity, then a degree of craft.

It's a lot of work for sorry returns. Winslet hasn't been this ill-used since Alan Parker's death penalty howler "The Life of David Gale," or maybe even "A Kid in King Arthur's Court." They all do the best they can. But the material is so thin and, at times, giggle-worthy — so seriously does it treat its romance novel plot — that it goes from laughable to just sad.



**MATT PRIGGE**  
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## Review

'Labor Day'

Director: Jason Reitman

Stars: Kate Winslet, Josh Brolin

Rating: PG-13

## Rom-com. Michael B. Jordan and Miles Teller slum their way through a Zac Efron movie

Men are reluctant to watch "Sex and the City" (or at least admit that they are). That explains why the show has so few dude versions. "That Awkward Moment" is the exception. The boys are Manhattan professionals who club, hook up with girls and convene for morning-after chats at diners. They're just like Carrie and the gang, only it's telling that when they talk R-rated dirty, they just sound like frat boys.

The hook is that Michael B. Jordan's Mikey has been handed divorce papers, forcing buds Jason (Zac Efron) and Daniel (Miles Teller) to agree to a



Miles Teller, Michael B. Jordan and Zac Efron are dudes in "That Awkward Moment." / FOCUS FEATURES

"Seinfeld"-ian pact: Out of a strained sense of solidarity, all of them will remain single.

With young male immaturity comes emotional remoteness, and not even

"Sex and the City" was this obsessed with the male member. There are even strangely premature Viagra gags, including a "planking" set piece that was thankfully omitted

from "Last Vegas." The girls (Imogen Poots and Mackenzie Davis) are game, but despite ripping off a classically female genre, this has no real interest in women.

**MATT PRIGGE**

## Review

'That Awkward Moment'

Director: Tom Gormican

Stars: Zac Efron, Michael B. Jordan, Miles Teller

Rating: R



# 'Girls' for olds



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Paulina Garcia plays a middle-aged divorcee back in the dating scene in "Gloria." / ROADSIDE ATTRACTIONS

**Dramedy.** "Gloria," a 58-year-old divorcee, fares about as well as the star of "Frances Ha."

In any other age, the Chilean "Gloria" would be perceived as an atypical midlife crisis picture. Instead, in the wake of movies and shows about women struggling to find love and/or careers in an unkind world, it can be treated as an atypical (and not just older) version of "Bridesmaids," "Girls" and "Frances Ha." Gloria (Paulina Garcia) is 58. And yet she's first introduced clubbing, but she's not desperate or pathetic. Unlike the heroes of the aforementioned titles, she's comfortable in her skin, despite being a divorcee thrust back into the horrors and irritations of the dating scene.

What's more, she not only has money and a comfy upper middle class existence, she also may have found Mr. Right within the

first handful of minutes. Rodolfo (Sergio Hernandez) is even older and, as Gloria learns upon their first tryst, has to wear a girdle. It's a much bigger deal that he's far more of a mess than she is, dealing with the death of a marriage with less aplomb. While Gloria gets the support of her children, Rodolfo has two pesky daughters and an ex-wife who constantly calls him. Much worse, he answers, every single time.

Still, the film doesn't necessarily take her side. Rodolfo may wind up with a less sturdy spine than initially assumed, but Gloria isn't completely together.

## Review

'Gloria'

Director: Sebastian Lelio

Stars: Paulina Garcia, Sergio Hernandez

Rating: R

• • • • •

The film laughs with her as she tries to stay composed as he reads her a barf-worthy poem about how he'd like to be sap if she were a tree and the blood in her heart and so forth. But the film, and Garcia's razor-sharp yet loose performance, allows her to be arrogant, to be flighty, to be a mess. Just because she shows no shame singing along to cheesy pop songs in the car doesn't mean she won't humiliate herself later.

Director Sebastian Lelio has an exacting style that stays close to its character even as it observes from a semi-clinical remove. Some scenes are banged out in one expertly judged shot that traps the characters in tidy microcosms. But they'd like to escape, even if they won't. That tension — plus a strong sense of humor, albeit one that goes a touch too far by including a revenge-by-paintgun bit — helps fuel "Gloria."



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| FREE MEASURING?                                       | YES       | NO          |
| LIFETIME LIMITED WARRANTY?                            | YES       | NO          |
| CUSTOM-SIZED?                                         | YES       | NO          |
| EXPERT INSTALLATION?                                  | YES       | NO          |



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## Singer catches husband in the act, files for divorce

Sad news, y'all. "Real Housewives of New York" star Ramona Singer and her house husband, Mario Singer, are getting divorced after 22 years of marriage. Ramona filed papers in a Manhattan court on Tuesday.

It's not all that surprising — the couple has been dodging rumors of an affair on Mario's part for months. Those rumors came to a head this weekend when Ramona, 57, caught her husband red-handed at their Hamptons home with his 27-year-old girlfriend (I wonder how big her eyes got when she saw THAT). "She made a big scene and called the police," a source told People. Even worse? Folks are whispering that Mario and the younger woman have been dating for over a year. A year!

"This is a personal and



Singer is now single.  
BRAVO

private matter for our family," she told People in a statement. "For my daughter Avery's sake, I would appreciate everyone respecting our privacy during this difficult time."

## THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson takes on the world of gossip.

DOROTHY ROBINSON  
@dorothyatmetro  
dorothy.robinson@metro.us



### Talking points

#### Bieber turns himself in on new charge

It turns out Justin Bieber's jaunt to Panama was just a breather between bookings. Less than a week after getting arrested in Miami, the Canadian pop star headed home to Toronto and promptly turned himself in to police, where he was fingerprinted and had his mug shot taken before being released on his own recognizance, according to E! News.

"The Toronto Police Service requested that Justin Bieber appear in Toronto today to face an allegation of assault relating to an incident on Dec. 29, 2013," Bieber's lawyer said in a statement.

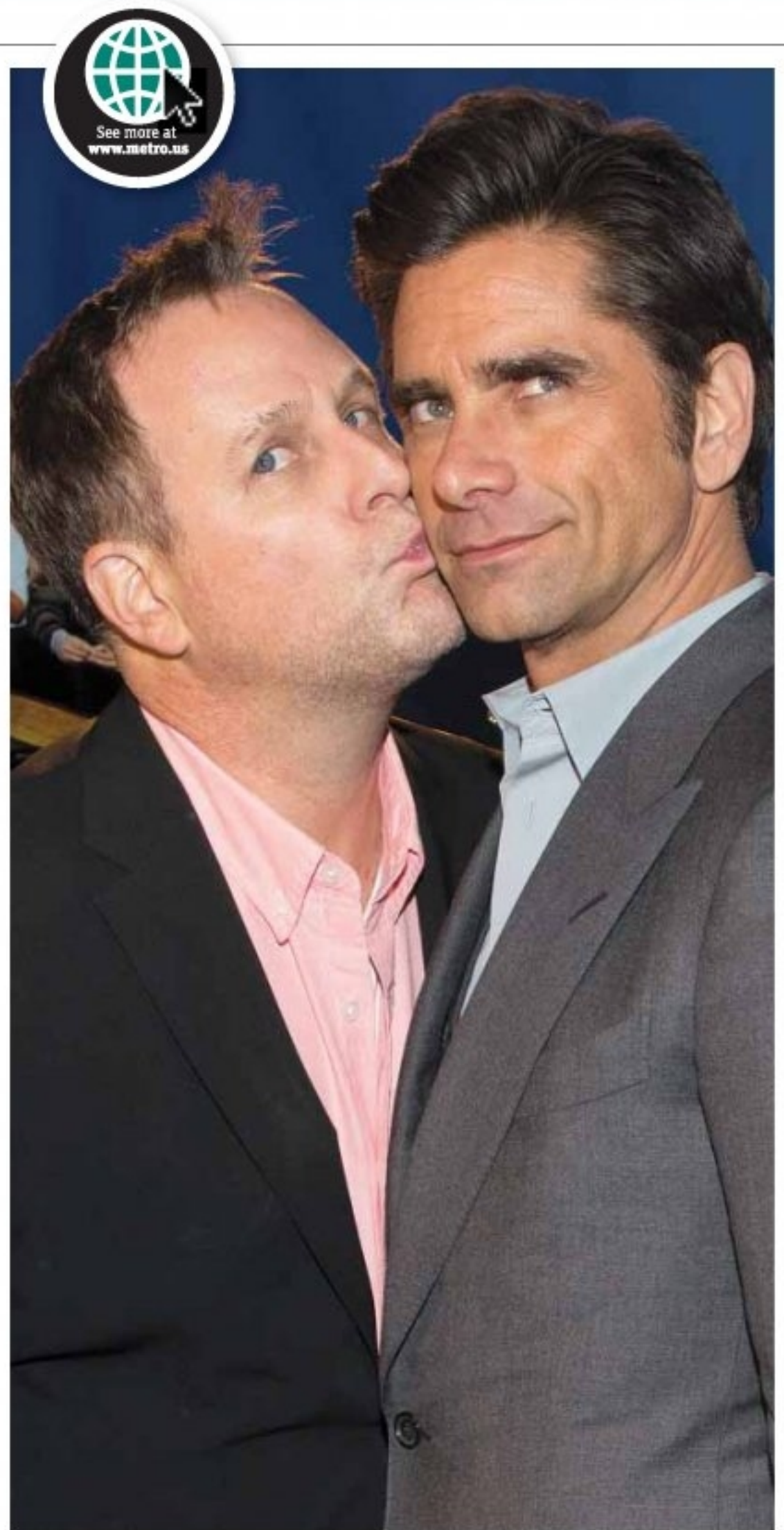
#### Could SJP be Vogue's EIC?

Anna Wintour has apparently been dropping hints that she has plans at Vogue for pal Sarah Jessica Parker, and the underlings are getting nervous. "Sarah has been consulted on a stunning array of Vogue's big moves. ... She's totally entered the inner circle," a source tells Radar Online. "Anna thinks Sarah, a fashion icon on 'Sex and the City,' has what it takes." SJP, for her part, isn't wasting time. "It's the fashion equivalent of running for president or being nominated to the Supreme Court, and Sarah is treating it that way."



#### Rihanna hates her butt

It turns out that Rihanna hates her butt (she is the only one). "I do pick on my body," the "Stay" singer tells E! News. "It's a thing that women do. We walk in front of the mirror and we look at our butt. Is it getting bigger today? Ew. It's still flat."



MIKE PONT, FILMMAGIC

## A 'Full House' kiss? Have mercy!

Bring on the "Full House" nostalgia. On Wednesday night, Bob Saget, John Stamos and Dave Coulier reprised their roles as Danny, Uncle Jesse and Joey to join Jimmy Fallon on the set of "Late Night with Jimmy Fallon" for a sketch. This snap comes courtesy of Coulier and Stamos stopping by the Dannon Oikos tent on Wednesday in New York City in anticipation for their Oikos Super Bowl commercial on Sunday. No word on where Kimmy Gibbler is in all of this.

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## Horoscope

**Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18.** Dealing with an emotional partner will be a challenge for you today. Try to take an impartial view.

**Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20.** Experiences in or around hospitals may leave you feeling a bit dejected. Try not to take anything too personally at this time. Your instincts are good, so follow your gut feelings.

**Aries | March 21-April 20.** Today is a good day to initiate professional changes. Interviews with your boss could lead to advancement if handled correctly.

**Taurus | April 21-May 21.** A spontaneous outing will turn into a social event. You will gain a lot of insight from talking to peers or relatives today.

**Gemini | May 22-June 20.** Making a financial deal will require caution, as deception is likely. You may also have personal difficulties with someone close to you.

**Cancer | June 21-July 22.** Conversations with your business partner or lover may yield undesirable results. Now is not the time to make a force play. You will be frustrated.

**Leo | July 23-Aug. 22.** A work situation is likely to make you emotional. An opportunity to make a career change will be beneficial, if taken.

**Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Avoid impulsive individuals who offer you a business proposition. Travel. Romance is in the stars.

**Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22.** Deception is present in your home environment. It would be best to deal with it head-on. Be clear, and you will find a solution to your problem. A residential move is likely at this time.

**Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21.** Evasiveness is likely to occur. In-laws may be meddlesome. Avoid making any life-changing decisions today.

**Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21.** Get out and socialize with friends. Do something physical in nature, and you may meet some interesting new people.

**Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20.** You will have a hard time handling an emotional partner. Try to face the truth of the matter. Don't let other people crush your spirit. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**

## Sudoku: Easy and hard

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | 9 |   | 8 |   |   | 7 |   | 3 |
| 1 | 7 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   | 3 | 7 | 9 |   |   |   |
| 4 |   |   |   | 1 | 7 | 8 | 6 |   |
|   |   | 1 |   | 3 |   | 4 |   |   |
|   | 5 | 8 | 6 | 9 |   |   |   | 7 |
|   |   |   | 1 | 8 | 3 |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   | 1 | 5 |
| 6 |   | 4 |   |   | 2 |   | 9 |   |

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   |   | 5 |   |   |   |   | 2 |
|   |   |   | 3 |   |   | 1 | 4 |   |
| 5 |   |   |   | 8 |   | 9 |   | 3 |
| 1 |   | 8 |   | 7 | 3 |   | 5 |   |
|   |   | 7 |   |   |   | 3 |   |   |
|   | 4 |   | 8 | 6 |   | 2 |   | 9 |
| 4 |   | 1 |   | 9 |   |   |   | 6 |
|   | 5 | 6 |   |   | 8 |   |   |   |
| 7 |   |   |   | 5 |   |   |   |   |

**How to play**  
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

## Crossword

## Across

1 Lose traction  
5 Clad like a judge  
10 Type of ranch  
14 Lunar phenomenon  
15 Faucet  
16 Persia, today  
17 A Baldwin  
18 Foundry product  
19 Graceful wrap  
20 Herd follower  
22 Was antsy  
24 Beaded shoes  
27 Movie mogul  
28 Beach sandal (hyph.)  
32 Buddhist monks  
36 KLM destination  
37 Inflates  
39 Frown  
40 Long hike  
42 Jellybean shapes  
44 Auction site  
45 Gondolier's "road"  
47 Put into law  
49 DDE  
50 Doglike scavenger  
51 Quiet firework  
53 Pate de foie —  
56 Greek colonnade  
57 Hiding  
61 Bond return  
65 Whodunit suspect  
66 Domain

69 — gin fizz

70 Fjord port  
71 Hungry one  
72 Black, in verse  
73 Tijuana coin  
74 Clay-target sport  
75 Diatribe

## Down

1 Getz or Mikita  
2 About 2.2 pounds  
3 Footnote note  
4 Leave hastily  
5 Campers, for short  
6 Bran source  
7 Squandered  
8 Turn inside out  
9 Reuben purveyors  
10 Scandal  
11 Europe-Asia range  
12 Boldly attempt  
13 Oklahoma town  
21 Throw off  
23 Guys' partners  
25 Ad award  
26 Crack the case  
28 Go get  
29 Virginia caverns  
30 Sherlock's lady friend  
31 Courses of action  
33 It merged with Exxon  
34 Conscious

35 More cunning

38 Cads' rebukes  
41 Western grey or red  
43 Skedaddle  
46 Escapade  
48 Priam was its king  
52 Crusty roll  
54 Buenos—  
55 Skulk around  
57 Food-processor setting  
58 — -majeste  
59 Fixes a squeak  
60 Concert proceeds  
62 Isle of exile  
63 Weird-sounding bird  
64 Ding a door  
67 Director Ang —  
68 A-Team member (2 wds.)

## Thursday's answer

BLEAK SLASH GUM  
BOOTH HELLO ECO  
COSTA RIATA NOO  
KAUAI RHONE  
BATWING ASIANS  
AGHAST UNPEG  
KIEV EGRET HEAL  
ELSE AGE FIDO  
REED CREDO IGOR  
OBEYS GOVERN  
PLEWER REFEREE  
OMENS BRIEF  
SIR IDEAL SPOUT  
ELI DANTE ERASE  
DEE ESSAY TERSE

## Letters

## Don't get greedy for power, Mr. President

The White House has made it clear that its agenda will be achieved in these last years of Barack Obama's administration with or without the consent of Congress.

Through the use of executive orders, this president intends to impose his personal will upon the country. We have three branches of government for a very good reason: to prevent just these sorts of dictatorial actions.

Where is our vaunted press? Is it not their constitutionally protected right, and responsibility, that

demands they speak out against this behavior?

Executive orders have been used by virtually all administrations, but rarely, if ever, in such blatant defiance of the will of Congress and thereby, the will of the people.

Abraham Lincoln said it best: "Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power."

Mr. Obama is failing this test miserably. Has he forgotten his oath to "preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States"?

E. CAMPBELL, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

## Online

You can use your smartphone to discover today's crossword answers — right now! Download and open the Blippar app on your smartphone and hold the screen over the puzzle — it's that easy!



|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |    | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |    | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 |    |    |    |    | 15 |    |    |    |    |    | 16 |    |    |    |
| 17 |    |    |    |    | 18 |    |    |    |    |    | 19 |    |    |    |
| 20 |    |    |    | 21 |    |    | 22 |    |    | 23 |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 24 |    | 25 | 26 |    | 27 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |    |    | 31 |    |    | 32 |    | 33 | 34 | 35 |
| 36 |    |    |    | 37 |    |    |    | 38 |    | 39 |    |    |    |    |
| 40 |    |    | 41 |    | 42 |    |    |    | 43 |    | 44 |    |    |    |
| 45 |    |    |    | 46 |    | 47 |    |    |    | 48 |    | 49 |    |    |
| 50 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 51 |    |    |    | 52 |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 53 |    | 54 | 55 |    | 56 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 57 | 58 | 59 |    |    |    |    | 60 |    |    | 61 |    | 62 | 63 | 64 |
| 65 |    |    |    |    | 66 |    |    | 67 | 68 |    | 69 |    |    |    |
| 70 |    |    |    |    | 71 |    |    |    |    |    | 72 |    |    |    |
| 73 |    |    |    |    | 74 |    |    |    |    |    | 75 |    |    |    |



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# 3

## SPORTS



### Take the Stairs

## Stairs interviews with Phillies

Matt Stairs has interviewed for the vacant Phillies color commentator role, according to Phillies.com. The former Phillies slugger could be the last interview for the position, after Jamie Moyer, Mitch Williams, Mickey Morandini and others.

# 3 Things to watch: Super Bowl XLVIII

Everything about Sunday's game is big. The stakes are high, the winning team will be crowned the world champions and will enter the record books in the most elite of football company. But these stakes are only equaled by the immense media attention leading up to the game and the massive world stage hosting the annual event. Here are the three biggest reasons why Super Bowl 48 is going to be so super.



**EVAN MACY**  
evan.macy@metro.us

## The biggest audience ever

It is no secret that Sunday night, between 6:30 and 10 p.m., a larger group of people will collect to watch the Super Bowl than any other television event for the rest of the year.

Forbes magazine estimates that a record 111.3 million people will tune into the game.

With a 30-second spot going for around \$4 million, there is an incredible return on an investment for an adver-



This year's halftime show will include Bruno Mars. / GETTY IMAGES

tiser during the Super Bowl broadcast.

This year, regular season NFL games were viewed by 5 percent more people than in 2012.

Then in the postseason, nine of the 10 playoff games boasted more than 30 million people watching, with the conference title games up 20 percent from last year.

It is no secret that the NFL is big business. But this weekend's extravaganza will likely end a profitable season with a bang.

## The world's biggest stage

For 47 seasons, the Super Bowl has taken place in a temperate climate with a relaxed feel in a relatively small city such as Tampa or New Orleans.

This year, right across the Hudson River from the largest city in the country, a cold weather, East Coast metropolitan Super Bowl threatens to change the way NFL championships are decided. The game, which after recent record cold in the Northeast appears to have reasonable



The success of Sunday's Super Bowl could have a direct impact on future sites for the game. / GETTY IMAGES

weather expected, could open the door to games in other northern cities, like Philadelphia, should the event be a success.

The controlled environment of the Georgia Dome in Atlanta could be giving way to a tough, testing Super Bowl that welcomes

the elements as another factor in proving a team is the best in the game.

## Big scoring potential

There is no way to predict if Peyton Manning and the Broncos will be able to transfer their regular season scoring supremacy onto the field at MetLife Stadium.

Nor can one surmise that the Seahawks, the NFL's No. 1 scoring defense, will be able to take advantage of a Manning "duck," to help support Russell Wilson and the Seattle offense.

But one thing is for sure; the big play possibility in this Super Bowl is certainly a reason to watch. Manning threw for a record 55 touchdowns this season and his offense became the first ever to score more than 600 points in a season. Seattle ranks first in the entire NFL in points allowed, at just 14.4 ppg. Something has to give.



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(MP31114)



# Prediction Machine gives Seattle the win

**You bet.** Now that we know the result of Super Bowl XLVIII, fans won't even have to watch the game.

According to 50,000 simulations run on PredictionMachine.com, the Seahawks will beat the Broncos this Sunday in the Super Bowl in what the website says will be one of the closest Super Bowls

## By the numbers

# 3-1

The Predictalator is 3-1 in Super Bowls all time and is 34-9-2 against the spread in the playoffs.

of all time. According to 50,000 game simulations, the Seahawks will win 23-21.

And Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson will outgun Peyton Manning, who will be seeking his second Super Bowl win in what has been a storied career.

"For this upcoming game in which we have the Seahawks winning outright, the edge that Seattle has is clear," said Paul Bessire, general manager of PredictionMachine.com. "The Seahawks are the more complete team. Denver has very obvious, elite strengths — simply stated, pass offense, special teams and run defense — that are relatively better than any of Seattle's strengths. However, Denver also has glaring weaknesses — pass



Seahawks cornerback Richard Sherman was the center of attention during Super Bowl XLVIII Media Day at the Prudential Center after his controversial rant following the NFC Championship game. / GETTY IMAGES

defense, run offense efficiency, turnover margin — and Seattle does not."

To come up with this result, the Predictalator simulates each play of the

Super Bowl, involving the 22 likely players on the field at that specific time.

Then the 11 players on each team are thrown onto the field, where each game

and each play is simulated 50,000 times.

KRISTIAN  
DYER  
letters@metro.us

## How it works

It begins with a simulated coin toss

"On the next play, upon the snap, we will assess the likelihood of a run or a pass, draw a random number and determine the actual outcome based on how that number relates to the odds," Bessire said. "Then we move on to who gets the ball, what he does with it, how his team impacts his output and what the defense does to affect the play. The technology moves on to the next play until the game is over. Repeat 49,999 more times."

The Seahawks win 54.8 percent of the time in the simulations, with the average over/under set at 47 points.

Las Vegas odds have the spread at Denver minus-2.5 with the over/under scoring total at 47.

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Pete Carroll had his team practicing full speed on Thursday ahead of Sunday's Super Bowl XLVIII. / GETTY IMAGES

# Getting down to business

## Super Bowl XLVIII.

Both teams are looking forward to actually getting out on the field after two weeks off.

The time for talk is finally — mercifully — over, as the Seahawks and Broncos take to the field Sunday night for Super Bowl XLVIII.

You can bet the players and coaches are equally anxious to just get out on the field and play.

"The schedule is the schedule. I think if they want to adjust it, they can," Denver head coach John Fox said Thursday, referring to the two-week layoff. "We'll be ready. I'm sure the Seahawks will be ready. It's kind of what we do."

Seattle turned up the intensity in practice on Thursday — a tradition they call "Turnover Thurs-

day" and one they've stuck to all season.

"We're in Super Bowl week; we're in count-down to the game," Seattle head coach Pete Carroll said. "We're not going to miss it. They're not going to be not right. They're going to be on. They're going to be fired up. They'll be flying around."

"We're getting down to the final days," Seattle linebacker Bobby Wagner said. "We're getting more excited. ... It's time to play."



**MARK OSBORNE**  
mark.osborne@metro.us

### Quoted

**"It's intense. We go really hard at practice. ... You don't see nervousness in guys' eyes."**

Richard Sherman, Seattle cornerback  
On Seahawks' practices this week

### Vick wants to start

## Vick says he can start in NFL

Eagles back up quarterback Michael Vick told NFL Network he thinks he can start in the NFL next season.

Vick shrugged questions about perhaps going to the Jets for the 2014 season, but made it clear he intends to start somewhere. **METRO**

### Young is done

## Former Phillie Young retires

Though he isn't a hall of famer, he was a pretty good hitter. The potent bat of former Phillies third baseman Michael Young appears to have hit its last baseball, as the 37-year-old announced he was walking away from the game Thursday. **METRO**

### Berkman retires

## Broken-down Berkman done

After a stellar 15-year career, Rangers slugger Lance Berkman will retire, citing injuries as the catalyst for his decision.

Berkman played in five All-Star Games and in six postseasons, most of them with the Astros. **METRO**

### New Sprint format

## NASCAR alters Chase format

NASCAR officials announced Thursday some changes in the Chase for the Sprint Cup format that will give more emphasis to winning races.

The playoff races will use 10 races to cut the field from 16 to four drivers. **METRO**

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# Rutgers star LeGrand heads to Super Bowl

## Super Bowl XLVIII.

The former Rutgers star, and Broncos fan, received a shocking Super Bowl gift.

An innocent comment during a radio interview landed Eric LeGrand two Super Bowl tickets and a dream come true for the lifelong Broncos fan.

LeGrand, the former Rutgers star defensive lineman from Avenel, N.J., was paralyzed on Oct. 16, 2010, in a collision with an Army football player. Since that injury, he has become a nationally recognized speaker and media personality, and he made an appearance earlier this week on a SiriusXM show hosted by Gil Brandt. The former



LeGrand has started a charity called "The bELieve Foundation" and become a motivational speaker. / GETTY IMAGES

### Quoted

"It is a dream come true — the Super Bowl being played in my state, with my team in it."

Eric LeGrand  
On attending Super Bowl XLVIII

Cowboys executive went through the standard radio interview questions with LeGrand, asking about the Super Bowl and his continued progress in rehabilitating from the injury.

But when LeGrand said he was still looking for tickets to root on his Broncos, Brandt dropped a bomb-

shell without hesitation.

"It was toward the end of the interview when I brought it up, that I was looking for tickets," LeGrand told Metro. "He then said, 'I will make sure that the NFL gets you tickets.' I had never met him before. I was floored. I didn't know what to say."

"It is a dream come true — the Super Bowl being played in my state, with my team in it. I can't describe it."

Brandt had access to two tickets and after meeting LeGrand for the first time this week, walked away impressed.

"It is almost unbelievable that a person who suffered a catastrophic injury like that is so upbeat," Brandt told Metro.

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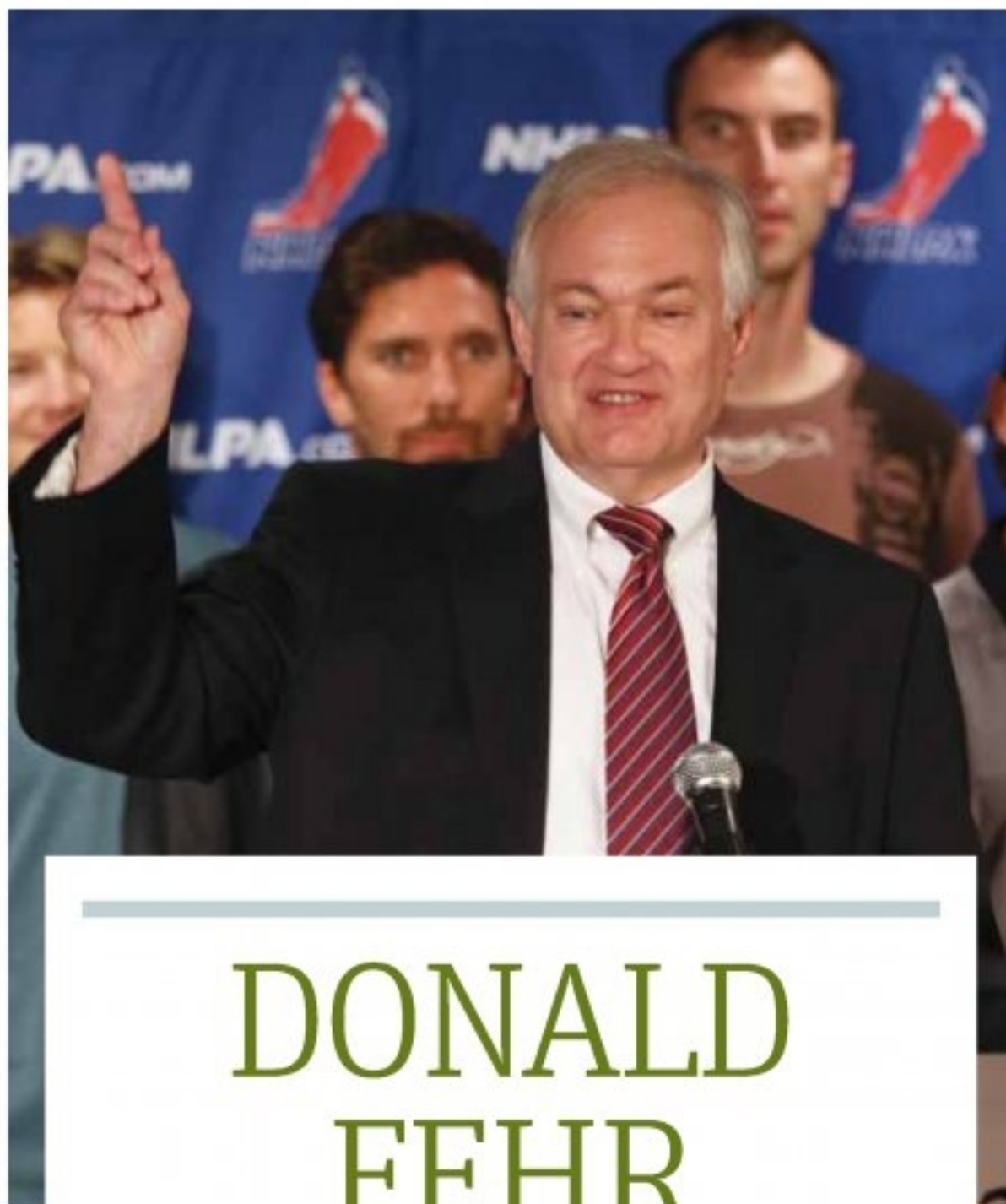
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## DONALD FEHR

The NHL players' association executive director talked to us about the league one year after the lockout, the Olympics and more.

## A VOICE FOR THE PLAYERS

**How would you describe the relationship between the players' association and NHL one year after the lockout?**

I think the answer to that is "professional." I think it is direct. Hopefully it is maturing. There is a lot of ongoing communication between our offices as we attempt to complete the agreement and operate. ... Hopefully that will continue to develop.

**During the labor talks one of the aspects you were adamant about was the lockout was unnecessary. Do you still feel the same way?**  
Yes. That hasn't changed. As I think I've said any number of times, that's the collective bargaining strategy of choice in the salary cap sports. I don't think it was necessary, but it certainly was expected.

**Were you surprised by**

### Quoted

**"My job is to represent what the players feel is appropriate. ... There will be continued discussion; there will be continued debate."**

Donald Fehr  
On whether fighting has a place in the future of the NHL

**the response of NHL fans to the league following the lockout, in terms of attendance and spending money on the product?**  
Without commenting specifically about spending dollars, I was not surprised by the fan response. The product is really good. The show the guys put on is really compelling. And that's especially true for hockey fans, who understand really what's going on out there and have been fans for a long time. And if the game was

taken away from them for awhile, you're going to see renewed interest when it comes back. That's just not, by the way, a hockey speculation. That's been the case in the other sports, too.

**The players held firm during the CBA talks on Olympic participation. Do you see Sochi as the last time NHL players will participate in the Olympics?**

I think that it was, as I understand it, a case-by-case basis in every Olympics. And what I assume and believe will happen after this one is that people will stop, reflect and try to figure out what happened poorly, if anything did, what it would mean and then sit down with the NHL and try to figure out where we go from here.

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Notice is hereby given that Delaware Valley Charter High School has released Request for Proposals (RFP's) for various networking equipment, servers, distance learning/video conferencing, cabling services and telecommunications, and internet access services. Details are provided within the formal posted RFP's, however the school will accept proposals that include compatible equipment/solutions. Interested respondents must have an E-rate SPIN number and adhere to the RFP response instructions. Complete responses must be received on or before 10 AM E.S.T. on February 6, 2014 addressed to the contact person that is given on the first page of the RFP's. To obtain a copy of the RFP's visit www.intelofunds.net and go to "Bid Opportunities" or you may find RFP copies on the schools website at www.dvchs.net. Questions regarding this request can be sent to Remy Bibaud at remy@intelofundsresources.com or by calling 412-231-1515.

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**BLAZIN' BUFFALO CHICKEN BITES**

**WITH BLUE CHEESE DIP**

**INGREDIENTS**

- 1/8 tsp. salt
- 1 tbsp. of water
- 2 cups of celery
- 1 tbsp. of honey
- 1 tsp. of lemon juice
- 2 tbsp. fat-free milk
- 2 tsp. Dijon mustard
- 2 cups of carrot sticks
- 1/2 cup light sour cream
- 3 tbsp. of light mayonnaise
- 3 tbsp. cayenne pepper sauce
- 1/4 cup crumbled reduced-fat blue cheese
- 1, 1/4 pounds of chicken tenders, cut into 1, 1/2 inch pieces



**DIRECTIONS**

1. To make the dip, stir together the sour cream, blue cheese, mayonnaise, milk, lemon juice and salt. Cover and refrigerate to allow flavors to blend, 15 minutes.
2. Spray a large nonstick skillet with nonstick spray and set over medium-high heat. Add the chicken and cook until browned and cooked through 3-4 minutes on each side. Transfer to platter and keep warm.
3. Add the pepper sauce, honey, water, and mustard to the skillet and cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until the mixture comes to a boil, 1 minute. Drizzle the sauce mixture over the chicken. Serve with the dip and the carrot and celery sticks.

**PER SERVING** (5 pieces of chicken, about 2 tbsp of dip, and 1/2 cup of carrot and celery sticks): 157 Cal, 7 g Fat, 3 g Sat Fat, 0g Trans Fat, 54 mg Chol, 375 mg Sod, 5 g Carb, 1g Fib, 18 g Prot, 62 mg Calc.

Weight Watchers International, Weight Watchers Comfort Classics ©2009, page 69.

\*Offer good until March 22, 2014. Subsequent weekly fee of \$15 applies (\$14 for seniors and students.) Not valid for At Work meetings or online subscription products. Cannot be combined with any offers. Participating areas include Berks, Bucks, Delaware, Lancaster, Montgomery, Philadelphia and Schuylkill counties in Pennsylvania and parts of Burlington, Camden and Gloucester counties in New Jersey.

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